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tribution of industries in Europe; four small maps, giving the distribution of the agricultural, iron, textile, and earthenware industries in the British Isles; a double-page map giving the distribution of industries in central Europe; and agricultural and industrial maps of India. The Commercial Gazetteer of countries and ports of the world is continued.

Part 17 has maps showing the meat exporting and importing countries tinted to indicate the value *per capita* of exports and imports, the distribution of cattle, with dark tint for areas where they number approximately over 50 per square mile, the distribution of sheep and hogs, the copper-mining localities of the world and the distribution of marble, guano, saltpetre, phosphate rock and kaolin. Sixteen diagrams illustrate the accompanying letter-press and the Commercial Gazetteer of countries and ports is continued, with black-and-white maps of Buenos Aires, Cadiz, Calcutta, Cape Town, Cardiff and Christiania.

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OCTOBER-DECEMBER, 1906.

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## BOOK NOTICES.

**Fighting the Polar Ice. By Anthony Fiala.** With an Introduction by W. S. Champ and Reports by William J. Peters, Russell W. Porter and Oliver S. Fassig. xxii and 301 pp., numerous photographs and sketches by the author and 9 views from painting in colour, Appendices and Maps. (No Index.) Doubleday, Page & Company, New York, 1906. (Price, \$3.80.)

Mr. Fiala's book is very handsomely produced and his photographs, nearly all taken by himself, have scarcely been equalled in other works on polar exploration. The book is well written and there is not a dull page in it, for though the outcome of Mr. Ziegler's second and last polar enterprise was not great in geographical achievement, it abounded with the most thrilling adventures. The book will make the impression upon students of polar research that Mr. Fiala possesses, in large measure, the qualities of leadership that are essential to success in such enterprises; that not a few of the men in his party were utterly unfit for participation in an Arctic expedition; that if they had been more adequate, he would probably have been able to make some degrees of latitude to the north on his first attempt; and that luck, which is so important an element in determining success or failure, was dead against him. It was no fault of his that his ship was lost; or that an impassable lead opened before him on his second northern sledge journey, when he attained 82°. The members of his scientific staff and the officers of the ship stood by him nobly and shared with him the credit for fidelity to duty and for achievement within the limits of possibility.

The book is a popular account of the expedition. The scientific results, including some surveys and meteorological and magnetic observations, will be published by the Ziegler Estate. It might be well to acknowledge somewhere the great boon to the expedition which the advanced supply stations made by Baldwin proved to be. He at least succeeded in transferring an immense quantity of provisions to the north, without which things would have gone very hard with the Fiala party, compelled as it was unexpectedly to live two years in the Arctic without any replenishment of its supplies.

It is needless to summarize here the story which Mr. Fiala tells in graphic